

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 176611
ORIGIN SS-15

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66011

DRAFTED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH:BA

APPROVED BY AF-TWSEELYE

S/S-O:AOTTO

-----105557 280138Z /75

O 280118Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 176611

EXDIS

FOL RPT JIDDA 5254 ACTION SECSTATE 27 JUL 77 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 5254

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CD, US, SA

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PAGE 02 STATE 176611

SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REF: STATE 174353

1. BASED ON OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH SAUDI OFFICIALS, WE BELIEVE
THAT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD BE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE FINANCIALLY
IN A MULTILATERAL EFFORT TO SHORE UP THE CHADIAN REGIME. WE

UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD HAS TRANSMITTED A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE SAG, BUT THE SAUDIS HAVE NOT REPLIED, PRIMARILY BECAUSE THEY DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY COULD DO THAT WOULD BE EFFECTIVE. IN THEIR VIEW THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD IS WEAK AND INEFFECTIVE AND THEY SEE LITTLE CHANCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT COULD DECISIVELY PUT DOWN THE REBELS IN THE MOUNTAINOUS NORTHWEST TERRAIN AS LONG AS THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE REBELS.

2. THE SAG SEEMS TO BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY FEASIBLE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM IS A NEGOTIATED ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD AND THE REBELS GUARANTEEING THE LATTER CERTAIN AUTONOMOUS RIGHTS IN THEIR HOME TERRITORY. THE SAG WOULD PROBABLY BE MOST RECEIPTIVE TO AN APPROACH THAT STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF STRENGTHENING THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD SO THAT IT WOULD BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO NEGOTIATE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH THE REBELS.

WEST

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

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